

III. CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently Amended) A filtering method for filtering electronic information to be transferred to a terminal through a telecommunication connection, wherein the method comprises the steps wherein:

a specific filtering parameter classifying a type of the electronic information is ~~connected~~associated by a device transferring the electronic information to the electronic information for the purpose of filtering before the electronic information is transferred to the terminal through the telecommunication connection; and the steps of

informing the terminal (MS) of said filtering parameter before the electronic information is transferred to the terminal through the telecommunication connection;

checking in the terminal said informed filtering parameter, the terminal automatically—and, allowing or preventing the receiving of the electronic information on the basis of said filtering parameter, whereupon

in response to said allowing of the receiving, the electronic information is transferred to the terminal through the telecommunication connection;

in response to said preventing of the receiving, the electronic information is not transferred to the terminal through the telecommunication connection.

2. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein said allowing of the receiving and the transferring of the electronic information are carried out either

by informing from the terminal of said allowing through the telecommunication connection and by subsequently sending the electronic information to the terminal ~~after this~~ through the telecommunication connection or

by retrieving by the terminal the electronic information to the terminal through the telecommunication connection, and

said preventing of the receiving is carried out by informing from the terminal of the rejection of the electronic information, whereupon the electronic information will not be transmitted to the terminal.

3. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the terminal is a battery-operated terminal and the telecommunication connection is a wireless connection.

4. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the electronic information is transferred to the terminal through the telecommunication connection from a server or a second terminal.

5. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 4, wherein the telecommunication connection is implemented by a connection through a telecommunication network, and

said ~~adding~~associating of a filtering parameter is carried out in one of the following devices: said server, said second terminal and a messaging server (MM-SC) carrying out the store-and-forward messaging that is in communication with said telecommunication network.

6. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein said filtering parameter is sent to the terminal in a notification message to be transmitted separately and the electronic information is subsequently transferred ~~after this~~ separately to the terminal only if the terminal allows the receiving of the electronic information.

7. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the electronic information comprises a header part and a base part, and said filtering parameter is included in the header part of the electronic information and that in the method

the terminal first reads said filtering parameter in said header part; and

the terminal receives the base part of the electronic information only if the terminal allows the receiving of the electronic information.

8. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein said filtering parameter comprises the information on at least one class of a number of classes agreed on in advance, on the basis of which the electronic information has been classified into said class.

9. (Original) A method according to claim 8, wherein said filtering parameter further comprises the information for identifying the original source of the electronic information.

10. (Original) A method according to claim 8, wherein said filtering parameter further comprise the information for identifying the content of the electronic information.

11. (Original) A method according to claim 8, wherein said class denotes whether the electronic information is one of the following: a personal message, a commercial advertisement and information relating to a specific subject.

12. (Original) A method according to claim 4, wherein said filtering parameter is automatically attached by said server or said second terminal to said electronic information without the user of the device being able to influence the filtering parameter to be attached.

13. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein in the terminal, it is specified in advance whether the receiving is allowed or prevented on the basis of said specific filtering parameter, whereupon when checking the filtering parameter the terminal compares the informed filtering parameter to said specification made in advance.

14. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein after the terminal receives a notification of a filtering parameter, the

method comprises informing the user of the filtering parameter and allowing the user to allow or prevent the receiving of said electronic information.

15. (Currently Amended) A terminal comprising means (RF, AER) for establishing a telecommunication connection and for receiving electronic information through the telecommunication connection, wherein the terminal comprises:

means (MPU, RF, AER) for receiving a filtering, which filtering parameter is related to the electronic information to be received;

means (MPU) for automatically allowing or preventing the receiving of the electronic information on the basis of said filtering parameter and that the terminal is arranged not to receive the electronic information through the telecommunication connection when the filtering parameter denotes the electronic information being prevented.

16. (Original) A terminal according to claim 15, wherein the terminal comprises

means (UI, MPU) for marking in advance the receiving of the electronic information as being allowed or prevented on the basis of a specific filtering parameter; and

means (MPU) for comparing the received filtering parameter to said marking made in advance;

and that said terminal is arranged to receive the electronic information through the telecommunication connection only when said comparison shows the receiving of the electronic information being allowed.

17. (Original) A terminal according to claim 15, wherein the terminal is a terminal that utilises wireless data transmission comprising means (RF, AER) for wireless data transmission.

18. (Currently Amended) A system for filtering electronic information to be transferred to a terminal through a telecommunication connection, which system comprises a device for transferring the electronic information and a terminal for receiving the electronic information, wherein the system comprises

means (MPU) for ~~attaching~~associating a specific filtering parameter to the electronic information for the purpose of filtering before the electronic information is transferred to the terminal through the telecommunication connection;

means (MM-SC) for informing the terminal (MS) of said filtering parameter before the electronic information is transferred to the terminal through the telecommunication connection;

and that said terminal comprises means for checking said informed filtering parameter and for automatically allowing or preventing the receiving of the electronic information on the basis of said filtering parameter; and that

in response to said allowing of the receiving, the electronic information is transferred from said device to the terminal through the telecommunication connection,

in response to said preventing of the receiving, the electronic information is not transferred from said device to the terminal through the telecommunication connection.

19. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 18, wherein

said terminal (MS) is arranged to allow said receiving either

by informing from the terminal of said allowing through the telecommunication connection for transmitting said electronic information from said device to said terminal ~~after—this~~subsequently through the telecommunication connection or

by retrieving by the terminal said electronic information to the terminal through the telecommunication connection, and

said terminal is arranged to prevent said receiving by informing from the terminal of the rejection of the electronic information, whereupon the system is arranged not to send said electronic information to the terminal.

20. (Currently Amended) A device for transmitting electronic information through a telecommunication connection to a terminal, wherein the device comprises

means (MPU) for ~~attaching~~associating a specific filtering parameter to the electronic information for the purpose of filtering before the electronic information is transferred to the terminal through the telecommunication connection, which filtering parameter is intended to automatically allow the terminal either to prevent or allow the receiving of the electronic information over the telecommunication connection on the basis of said filtering parameter.

21. (Currently Amended) A device according to claim 20, wherein the device comprises:

means (MM-SC) for informing the terminal (MS) of said filtering parameter before the electronic information is transferred to the terminal through the telecommunication connection.

22. (Original) A device according to claim 20, wherein said filtering parameter comprises the information on at least one class of a number of classes agreed on in advance, on the basis of which the electronic information has been classified into said class.

23. (Original) A device according to claim 22, wherein said filtering parameter further comprises the information for identifying the original source of the electronic information.

24. (Original) A device according to claim 22, wherein said filtering parameter further comprises the information for identifying the content of the electronic information.

25. (Original) A method according to claim 22, wherein said class denotes whether the electronic information is one of the following: a personal message, a commercial advertisement and information relating to a specific subject.

26. (Currently Amended) A device according to claim 20, comprising:

means (MPU) for maintaining specification criteria, where there are a specified number of filtering parameters and criteria on the basis of which the device is arranged to attachassociate a specific filtering parameter of said number of filtering parameters;

means (MEM) for keeping said specification criteria protected against manipulation for preventing the user of the device from changing said specification criteria, and

means (MPU) for automatically ~~attaching~~associating said filtering parameter to the electronic information on the basis of said specification criteria.

27. (Original) A device according to claim 20, wherein the device is a server (MM-SC) or a terminal (MS).

28. (Original) A device according to claim 20, wherein the device is a terminal (MS) utilising wireless data transmission.

29. (Original) A device according to claim 22, wherein the device is a terminal (MS) and it is arranged to add class information that tells that the electronic information is a personal message.

30. (New) A filtering method for filtering electronic information to be transferred to a terminal through a telecommunication connection comprising:

checking in the terminal an informed filtering parameter against a filtering parameter associated with the electronic information;

allowing a receipt of the electronic information if the checked filtering parameter matches the informed filtering parameter wherein the electronic information is transferred to the terminal through the telecommunication connection;

preventing the receipt of the electronic information if the checked filtering parameter does not match the informed filtering parameter, wherein the electronic information is not transferred to the terminal through the telecommunication connection; and

wherein the filtering parameter comprises the information on at least one class of a number of classes agreed on in advance, on the basis of which the electronic information has been classified into the class, the class denoting whether the electronic information is a personal message, a commercial advertisement or information relating to a specific subject.

31. (New) A method according to claim 30, further comprising the allowing of the receipt and the transferring of the electronic information carried out either by:

informing from the terminal of the allowing through the telecommunication connection and by subsequently sending the electronic information to the terminal through the telecommunication connection; or

by retrieving by the terminal the electronic information to the terminal through the telecommunication connection, and

the preventing of the receiving is carried out by informing from the terminal of the rejection of the electronic information, whereupon the electronic information will not be transmitted to the terminal.

32. (New) A method according to claim 30, wherein the filtering parameter is sent to the terminal in a notification message to be transmitted separately and the electronic information is subsequently transferred separately to the terminal only if the terminal allows the receiving of the electronic information.

33. (New) A method according to claim 30, wherein the electronic information comprises a header part and a base part, and the filtering parameter is included in the header part of the electronic information, further comprising:

the terminal first reading the filtering parameter in the header part; and

the terminal receiving the base part of the electronic information only if the terminal allows the receiving of the electronic information.

34. (New) The method of claim 30, further comprising before the checking in the terminal the informed filtering parameter:

associating to the electronic information, by a device transferring the electronic information, a specific filtering parameter for filtering the electronic information before the electronic information is transferred to the terminal through the telecommunication connection; and

informing the terminal of the filtering parameter before the electronic information is transferred to the terminal through the telecommunication connection.

35. (New) A method according to claim 34, further comprising:

implementing the telecommunication connection by a connection through a telecommunication network; and

carrying out the associating of a filtering parameter in one of the server, the second terminal and a messaging server carrying out the store-and-forward messaging that is in communication with the telecommunication network.

36. (New) A terminal comprising means (RF, AER) for establishing a telecommunication connection and for receiving electronic

information through the telecommunication connection, wherein the terminal comprises:

means (MPU, RF, AER) for receiving a filtering parameter, which filtering parameter is related to the electronic information to be received;

means (MPU) for allowing or preventing the receiving of the electronic information on the basis of the filtering parameter and that the terminal is arranged not to receive the electronic information through the telecommunication connection when the filtering parameter denotes the electronic information being prevented;

means (UI, MPU) for marking in advance the receiving of the electronic information as being allowed or prevented on the basis of a specific filtering parameter;

means (MPU) for comparing the received filtering parameter to the marking made in advance; and

and that that terminal is arranged to receive the electronic information through the telecommunication connection only when the comparison shows the receiving of the electronic information being allowed.

37. (New) A terminal according to claim 36, wherein the terminal is a terminal that utilizes wireless data transmission comprising means (RF, AER) for wireless data transmission.

38. (New) A device for transmitting electronic information through a telecommunication connection to a terminal, wherein the device comprises:

means for associating a specific filtering parameter to the electronic information for the purpose of filtering before the electronic information is transferred to the terminal through the telecommunication connection, which filtering parameter is intended to allow the terminal either to prevent or allow the receiving of the electronic information over the telecommunication connection on the basis of the filtering parameter;

wherein the filtering parameter comprises the information on at least one class of a number of classes agreed on in advance, on the basis of which the electronic information has been classified into the class, the class denoting whether the electronic information is a personal message, a commercial advertisement or information relating to a specific subject.

39. (New) A device according to claim 38, wherein the device further comprises means for informing the terminal of the filtering parameter before the electronic information is transferred to the terminal through the telecommunication connection.

40. (New) A device according to claim 38, wherein the filtering parameter further comprises the information for identifying the original source of the electronic information.

41. (New) A device according to claim 38, wherein the filtering parameter further comprises the information for identifying the content of the electronic information.

42. (New) A computer program product comprising:

a computer useable medium having computer readable code means embodied therein for causing a computer to filter electronic information to be transferred to a terminal through a telecommunication connection,, the computer readable code means in the computer program product comprising:

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to check an informed filtering parameter in the terminal;

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to allow or prevent receiving of the electronic information on the basis of the informed filtering parameter;

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to transfer the electronic information to the terminal through the telecommunication connection in response to allowing the receiving of the electronic information; and

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to not transfer the electronic information to the terminal through the telecommunication connection in response to the preventing of the receiving of the electronic information;

wherein the filtering parameter comprises the information on at least one class of a number of classes agreed on in advance, on the basis of which the electronic information has been classified into the class, and the class denotes whether the electronic information is one of the following: a personal message, a commercial advertisement and information relating to a specific subject.

43. (New) The computer program product of claim 42 further comprising:

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to associate a specific filtering parameter to the electronic information to filter the electronic information before the electronic information is transferred to the terminal through the telecommunication connection; and

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to inform the terminal of the filtering parameter before the electronic information is transferred to the terminal through the telecommunication connection.

44. (New) An article of manufacture comprising:

a computer useable medium having computer readable program code means embodied therein for causing a computer to establish a telecommunication connection and receiving electronic information through the telecommunication connection, the computer readable code means in the article of manufacture comprising:

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to allow the terminal to prevent or allow receiving of the electronic information over the telecommunication connection on the basis of a filtering parameter;

wherein the filtering parameter comprises the information on at least one class of a number of classes agreed on in advance, on the basis of which the electronic information has been classified into the class, and the class denotes whether the electronic information is one of the following: a personal message, a commercial advertisement and information relating to a specific subject.

45. (New) The article of manufacture of claim 44 further comprising:

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to associate a specific filtering parameter to the electronic information; and

computer readable program code means for causing a computer to filter the electronic information on the basis of the specific filtering parameter before the electronic information is transferred to the terminal through the telecommunication connection.

46. (New) The method of claim 1 further comprising the terminal accepting or rejecting the electronic message on the basis of the filtering parameter without user intervention.

47. (New) The method of claim 1 further comprising including the filtering parameter in a header of a data unit transmitted according to a WAP protocol.

48. (New) The method of claim 1 further comprising the filtering parameter comprising a classification parameter that identifies the electronic information by a type that is not a format of the electronic information.

49. (New) The method of claim 1 further comprising the filtering parameter comprising a combination of a classification parameter and a source of the electronic information and:

determining if the electronic information is to be rejected based on the classification parameter; and

if the electronic information is to be rejected, determining if the source will allow the receiving of the electronic information.

50. (New) The terminal of claim 15 wherein the means for receiving a filtering parameter further comprises means for receiving a filtering parameter in a header of a notification message.